

Bank Street - 29 Oct. /45.

Many thanks, my dear Doctor, for your very kind letter, which reached me yesterday, & for the friendly anxiety which prompted it - I sincerely sympathize with you, on the loss of your good father; a severe affliction, under any circumstances, & being the first breach, in a large family, it is no doubt bitterly felt - So you, personally, having been so long weaned from home, it will be less afflictive than to those who constantly surrounded the paternal hearth. So then, & to Mr. Gray, the desolation of spirit will indeed be great; & may God grant them adequate support under the visitation - It is no small comfort to know that your father was well prepared for a sudden removal - Diseases of the heart appear to me as amongst the most awful; altho' on the other hand, there is, I believe, an exemption from suffering, which belongs to the more lingering complaints.

My silence was not attributable, thank God, to illness, as I have had no return of the nervous attack, & altho' it is very slowly, I still think that I am gaining ground - at the moment, I have a very severe cold, & I need not tell you how unpleasant that is, but I hope to <sup>be</sup> well of it before very long - I thought that the fine weather would prolong your two botanical jaunts, & hence I resolved to be in no hurry about writing - I will now proceed to one or two little matters, which I have to communicate, & first of the Russian Ships - The late Russ. Vice Consul, is a friend of mine, & to him I first

applied, & subsequently, to the acting Consul, & found that they exactly concurred in opinion - viz. that your Shipment should be made, from hence, either towards the close of March or first of April, which, allowing about 45 days for the passage, would bring the Vessel to St. Petersburg about the middle of May, which would be quite safe, beyond all reasonable doubts - Mr. Krumhardt, the Consul, told me that a better & much more rapid mode of conveyance wd. be to ship the Boxes to Hamburg, & have them forwarded by Steam boat to Lubeck - But this, he said, wd. be much more expensive, & would besides require an acquaintance with a Hamburg house who would take the trouble of forwarding - I rejoice that your health is completely reestablished - Rely upon it, that it will not do for one like yourself, to mow yourself up constantly in your study - Exercise, of a strong kind, appears necessary for your well-being, & I should think your proposal to ride on horse-back, before breakfast, might answer an excellent purpose - What have you done with *Andromeda rhomboidalis*? Do you know it? If not, still let it stand - It is a very distinct species, & I only once received it, collected near the St. John's Flor. by Ed. Doubleday - It is well known & described by Pers., as quoted by Elliott, who did not know the plant himself - The plant you grow as *Rudbeck. alismifolia* is rough, almost scabrous, throughout, whereas it shd. be quite glabrous, as described in the flora, & as I remember the *Leavenworth* specimens - How is this? I have just finished my arrangements of your Cyperaceae, & at the, from the want of a microscope (my own was burnt) I have not been able to settle all the

Sp. of Eleach. & Rhynchosp. to my mind, yet I have the satisfaction of believing that you can now make your collections available when you wish, which before was totally out of the question - You never saw such mess & muddle in your life - all was indeed "in pi" - Grapes - Car! & all other gumaceous plants laid in heaps in the same sheets, in many instances - I will mention (merely for your own guidance) that I do not find your *Junci*, except a few from Hale - I have been much surprised to see how you have neglected your own Collections! Many very common things (or rather I would say what you, & I too, have often sent away), do not exist at all in your herb! or are perhaps represented by a shabby little bit - I remember, in particular, *Carex arida* - *Carex* (you have only one of my orig! Spec. the 'I gave you 100, & have none from Ohio) *Elliottii*, *Dasycarpa* & *rebut* etc. If you have any Carices to work up in the plants of Lindheimer, this winter, I wish you to look at some *Mem.* I have made - say in *C. laxiflora*, where there is, I suspect, a new sp. from Hale, & also, a thing which Torrey calls in his Mon. Cyp. a  $\beta$ . of *C. laxiflor.* but I believe it distinct - It is a western plant, but your friend Krieskern sent it to you, for your opinion, & calls it a var. of *C. anceps*. If he so publishes it, in his "grass Book", he will, in the classic phrase of Sam. Wells "make an Egypt. mummy of his-self" - If it is a sp., as I believe, I would rather you described it than our friend Ed. Luch. to whom it is no doubt sent in his set of Carices. Please also refer to my remarks under *C. gigantea* a very queer thing from Texas - I suspect our friend Torrey made a mistake there - also look at a parcel of things which I have put in *C. tetanica*, from Texas Harris - look also at what I have put in *C. panicca* - I incline to think that a plant which (speaking only from

recoll<sup>ed</sup>.<sup>n</sup>) I believe to be the *C. concidea* or *var.* grass book, is either  
*C. paucica*, or *C. meadia*, if that be *C. stricta* - Do not forget to  
send me Derweys Bot. mass. also, if you have it to spare, a copy  
of Torrey's sp. of Buckleya, & his report of the Fremont plants, which  
I have never seen - I remember also that I had a paper (or review)  
of yours containing some remarks upon the plants preferred by  
Cuscuta - & their apparent avoidance of Rudolphi. I wanted to  
refer to this a few weeks ago, but did not find it amongst what you  
kindly gave me when at Cambridge - I do not expect you even to  
look at any of these things, at present, but by & bye, when I send back  
your glumacea, I wish you to refer to what I have named, before  
working up any Carices for Lindh. as it will give you a good chance  
to make straight what may require it, without giving others a  
chance, hereafter - To-morrow, I mean to make my first  
effort with your gramina, which, as yet, I have only taken  
out from the lyp. - It will take me 2 or 3 days to sort them  
into genera - In the sheets of Hale see right, 6 or 8 plants  
(of all sorts) lie one upon the other! Hale makes five species  
but if his general knowledge of plants, may be inferred from  
his acquaintance with the glumacea of his district,  
he is, indeed, a prince of a Botanist! An absolute  
"caution"! I beg my kind regards to your Brother, &  
have to thank him for forwarding a letter to me, which, at  
last, I received; after being opened by another John Carey  
here! Please be particular always to address your Lrs.  
"care of C. H." or, (for the present) 22 Bank St., but I prefer  
their going to Pine St. as I get them earlier - Many thanks  
for your recoll<sup>ed</sup>. of my "pigeon-hole", which, I well knew,  
would not be forgotten - Do not, however, trouble yourself  
about sending on anything, now that you are engaged upon  
your lectures - For the next 2 or 3 weeks, your grasses will  
amuse me sufficiently, & I shall then sort out my large  
gatherings, when at Cambridge, which, (except the drying plants,  
& the birdheimers) have remained untouched up to this time -